MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 FEBRUARY 1982

Syria

Damascus Explosion -- Monte Carlo radio reported an explosion near the building which houses the Syrian Information Ministry and the ruling party's organ, AL-BA'TH. According to the radio, the driver of a pickup truck detonated its load of 200 kg of dynamite when guards prevented the vehicle's entry into the building's garage. Describing the driver as "an agent of Israel and the CIA from the Muslim Brotherhood gang," SANA claimed that he was killed by guards while attempting to escape. SANA added that the explosion damaged some nearby cars and shattered glass in the building, thereby slightly injuring a number of employees.

Terming the incident an escalation of national opposition to the regime's institutions, Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria said the explosion badly damaged the AL-BA'TH and nearby buildings, and claimed that news agencies reported 76 persons killed and over 135 wounded in the blast.

Press Comment -- Damascus radio reported comments by three newspapers: AL-BA'TH wrote that Washington has bet on the Muslim Brotherhood to wreck Syria's steadfastness. In an apparent reference to the explosion, the paper concluded that "butting against walls" with dynamite will not change Syria's valiant course. ATH-THAWRAH maintained that Israel has completed military preparations for attacking Lebanon and Syria and asked UNIFIL to leave southern Lebanon. Both papers opined that the United States and Israel are reacting to the defeat Syria inflicted on them at the UN General Assembly. TISHRIN contended that the war being prepared by the United States and Israel will backfire because Syria enjoys the support of the Arab masses and worldwide friends and allies led by the Soviet Union.

PLO

VOP Claims -- The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio claimed that Israel asked the Senegalese UNIFIL contingent in southern Lebanon to abandon its positions in the central sector. According to the radio, Israel has called up reserve troops, strengthened its forces on the Lebanese border and evacuated settlements near the Syrian border.

Operations Chief Interview -- The London weekly AL-HAWADITH published an interview with Brig Gen Sa'd Sayil, PLO director of central operations and Executive Committee member. Sayil said the Palestinian revolution's forces do not claim to be able to defeat the Israeli Army now, but when the PLO attains a military balance with Israel, the question of finally settling the situation with the Israeli enemy will arise. Asked whether the Soviet Union is supplying the PLO with weapons such as FROG and surface-to-air missiles, Sayil said that his organization has succeeded in obtaining sophisticated weapons from friends. Earlier in the interview he had stated that these weapons are notable for their accuracy and have been rapidly absorbed by PLO forces. Sayil said the purpose of a PLO military delegation's recent tour of Eastern Europe was to develop military relations. He added that arming and training were discussed, and that the delegation obtained good results. Asked whether the PLO would use its new long-range artillery and other improved weapons against the northern Israeli settlements in case of an Israeli attack, Sayil replied that the PLO has created disaffection among the settlers in the north by proving that their government and army are unable to protect them. He added that while appreciating humane considerations, "We will use the arms we have should we be forced to." Asked whether the PLO's 28-30 January fedayeen operation in the Jordan Valley should be regarded as a prelude to other operations on new fronts, including the Golan, Sayil said the PLO will use all the resources, means and fronts it can. He reiterated that the cease-fire negotiated by U.S. envoy Philip Habib concerns only the Lebanese front.

Israel

Arms Deal Comment -- Citing Israeli and U.S. sources, HA'ARETZ asserted that the United States intends to pursue the Hawk missile deal with Jordan. In an interview carried by

Jerusalem radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir declared that the Middle East countries need peace, not new arms, and added that new weapons will not influence Jordan in a positive direction. Citing "authoritative sources," Jerusalem radio reported that Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arens told U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in Washington that the possibility of maintaining Israel's qualitative advantage, which the United States has pledged to do, is diminishing. When the most sophisticated weapons are supplied to Arab countries, what can be supplied to Israel to maintain the edge? Arens reportedly asked.

Egypt

During a meeting with a group of visiting Israeli journalists, MENA reported, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai will eliminate existing sensitivity and enhance normalization. 'Ali reiterated that full Palestinian autonomy is necessary to obtain peace, "preparatory to self-determination." He contended that the autonomy talks could be brought out of deadlock by taking into consideration the interests of both sides and by bringing the Palestinians and Jordanians into the peace process. In this connection he again urged Israel to implement confidence-building measures to encourage Palestinian participation in the negotiations and to halt settlement activity or any measures "against" Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. After the Palestinian issue is resolved, the Middle East region would dedicate itself to development and to confronting foreign dangers, 'Ali maintained.

PDRY

Aden radio reported that the paper SAWT AL-'UMMAL demanded imposition of the severest penalties on the group currently being tried for terrorism and sabotage. According to another radio report, Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has issued a decree amending the penal code so that acts specified in Articles 169, 170 and 171 now carry a minimum penalty of 5 years and a maximum penalty of execution if certain agravating conditions are present.

Iran

Khomeyni Message -- In a message to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi delivered by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati during his current visit to Libya, broadcast by Tripoli radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni said regrettable that some Arab governments spread fabrications in order to disturb Iran instead of seeking to help the strongest state in the region and the one most committed to Islam. Khomeyni also thanked Al-Qadhdhafi for condemning the United States and Israel and for its loyalty to states that adhere to Islamic law.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio said that on 15 February Iranian aircraft attacked the Al-Bakr jetty in Iraq and returned safely to base after inflicting serious damage. The communique claimed that Iranian forces killed or wounded 100 Iraqis and lost 5 of their own men. IRNA asserted that the 17 February Iraqi cluster bomb attack on residential areas of Eslamabad-e Gharb destroyed a residential area with a 1-km radius. The agency placed the toll at 23 dead and 46 wounded, claiming that most of the dead were babies.

An Iraqi communique published by INA said that Iraqi planes and helicopters attacked enemy positions in the central and southern sectors, setting targets on fire before returning safely to base. The communique claimed that 102 Iranians were killed and admitted the loss of 20 Iraqis.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 034 19 February 1982

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

BANGLADESH

Court 'Quashes' Ex-President's Conviction D 1
Government Seizure of Newspaper Ruled Illegal [AFP] D 1
Briefs: Islamic Bank Aid D 1

INDIA

ROK Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks E 1
Meeting With Rao E 1
Report on Banquet E 1
Rao Talks in Vietnam, Thailand Analyzed E 2
Rao Congratulates New Pakistani Foreign Minister E 4
Kashmiri Asks Haq To Stop Suppressing People E 4
[INDIAN EXPRESS 9 Feb]
Soviet Denial of Dange's Visa 'Bizarre' E 5
[INDIAN EXPRESS 11 Feb]
PATRIOT: U.S. Encouraging Indian Secessionism [8 Feb] E 6
Gandhi Questioned on West Bengal Elections E 7
Reddy Addresses Budget Session of Parliament E 7
Further Details E 8
Understanding Reached on Mirage-2000 Deal E 8
Poland Wants To Import Indian Goods Immediately E 9
Economic Cooperation With Bulgaria To Expand E 9
Work Begins on Fifth Nuclear Powerplant E 9

IRAN

Velayati Hands Khomeyni Message to Al-Qadhdhafi [Tripoli] I 1
Tehran: U.S. Changing Tactics in Gulf Region I 1
Musavi Deputy's Activities in GDR Reported I 2
[cross-reference]
23 Civilians Killed in Iraqi Attack on Eslamabad I 2
Majlis Condemns Bombing I 3
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 794 I 3
Khomeyni's Office Appoints Dehdasht Friday Imam I 4
Ardabili on Judiciary, Security Affairs I 4
[ETTELA'AT 4 Feb]
Clandestine Radio on Tudeh Ties With Soviets I 6
[Free Voice of Iran]
NOVI Assails U.S. 'Hypocrisies' on Human Rights I 8

COURT 'QUASHES' EX-PRESIDENT'S CONVICTION

BK180319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] The Bangladesh Supreme Court has quashed the conviction of former President Khondakar Moshtaq Ahmad.

He has already served 4 years out of a 5-year imprisonment. Ahmad was convicted on charges of corruption by the special military court in 1977.

GOVERNMENT SEIZURE OF NEWSPAPER RULED ILLEGAL

BK181155 Hong Kong AFP in English 0709 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] Dacca, 18 Feb (AFP) -- The Bangladesh High Court has declared the government takeover of the country's leading English daily, THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, illegal and asked the authorities to return the newspaper to its owner within 2 months.

The newspaper was taken over by the government following the liberation of the country in 1971. Known as the PAKISTAN OBSERVER before independence, it was owned by Hamidul Haq Chowdhury, a retired politician and a former foreign minister of Pakistan.

During Bangladesh's war of independence with Pakistan, Mr Chowdhury was in former West Pakistan and was declared as "collaborator" by the post-liberation government in Dacca. THE OBSERVER was taken over by the government under the abandoned property act.

A few years ago, the Bangladesh Government restored his citizenship and allowed him to return home. He also got back most of his personal property, including his house, but the government tried to retain THE OBSERVER, which had associate publications such as now-closed Bengali daily PURBADESH, and the popular cine-weekly CHITRALI.

Mr Chowdhury petitioned the High Court reclaiming ownership of the paper. In upholding his application, the court allowed the government a certificate to contest its decision before the Supreme Court appellate division.

BRIEFS

ISLAMIC BANK AID -- The Islamic Development Bank will finance a foreign trade operation in favor of Bangladesh for the import of raw cotton from Pakistan worth $5.14 million. An agreement to this effect was signed at the bank's headquarters in Jidda on 15 February. Earlier this year, the bank had financed two other foreign trade operations for the import of oil and cotton totalling over $14 million by Bangladesh. [Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 15 Feb 82 BK]

ROK FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK180337 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] Foreign Minister of South Korea No Sin-yong arrived in New Delhi last night on a 5-day visit to this country. He was received at the airport by Foreign Secretary R.D. Sathe and other senior officials.

Talking to newsmen, he said he was visiting the country to renew old friendship.

He will hold talks with External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao today. The two leaders will exchange views on the international situation and bilateral cooperation.

No will call on the president and the prime minister on Friday.

All-India Radio correspondent understands that both Korea and India were interested in strengthening the trade relations between the two countries. Last year, the two-way trade amounted to 150 crore rupees. The two countries have been collaborating in joint ventures abroad.

Meeting With Rao

BK181630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] India has reiterated that it stands for reunification of the two Koreas through consultations and discussions. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao told visiting South Korean Foreign Minister No Sin-yong that India is interested in their peaceful reunion. The two leaders had talks for about 70 minutes in New Delhi today and their discussion centered round the situation in the Korean Peninsula and South Asia.

The South Korean foreign minister sought India's understanding of their stand that the problems of the Peninsula should be settled by the Koreans themselves. He recalled India's leading role at the formation of the Republic of Korea.

The foreign ministers also reviewed their relations with neighbors and other nations.

Narasimha Rao said that India always believed in coexistence among countries.

They will meet again on Saturday to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Report on Banquet

BK190433 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] The external affairs minister has called for efforts to eliminate all tensions in Asia. He was speaking at a banquet given in honor of visiting South Korean Foreign Minister No Sin-yong in New Delhi last night.

He said as a nonaligned country India has been trying to promote peace, stability and economic development both in the region and the world. Rao said developing countries of Asia and other parts of the world can only secure a better life for their people in a peaceful planet.

Rao said India will continue to support all initiatives toward reunification of the two Koreas. He said this has to be achieved through peaceful efforts by both sides without any foreign intervention.

No Sin-yong referred to India's outstanding contribution to the Nonaligned Movement, which he said is a stabilizing force in today's complex world of formidable challenges.

He also appreciated India's just and principled stand on the Korean question in the United Nations, the nonaligned and other forum. The foreign ministers expressed satisfaction over the existing relations between them and voiced their determination to further strengthen the friendly ties and widen the areas of cooperation.

RAO TALKS IN VIETNAM, THAILAND ANALYZED

BK180714 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 17 Feb 82

[Commentary by S. Vishwam of DECCAN HERALD]

[Text] For a variety of reasons, the just-concluded visits of External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao to Vietnam and Thailand have yielded significant results.

The first of these is the affirmation of continued Indian commitment to assist in the speedy restoration of Vietnam's war-torn economy and the pledge of an immediate assistance of 10 crore of rupees. The visit strengthened Indo-Vietnamese bilateral relations in economic and political terms. Additionally, there was the mutual desire to solve regional problems through the process of negotiations rather than confrontation.

The second is the repeated Indian affirmation that New Delhi continues to favor a regional approach to the solution of Southeast Asian problems rather than imposed solutions manufactured outside. Both India and the countries Rao visited have good reason to feel gratified that for the time being India would like fresh initiatives for tackling the Kampuchean issue to emanate from the countries of the region. Rao declared that India did not propose to launch new initiatives but would assist in the process of negotiations through quiet diplomacy rather than through open involvement.

While Rao's visit to Vietnam was largely centered on the development of bilateral relations and the identification of areas of mutual cooperation, it was inevitable that the continuing atmosphere of tension in the Southeast Asian states should figure in the talks. The Vietnamese assessment appeared to be that regional tensions can be directly attributed to the convergence of the interests and ambitions of China and the United States. The Vietnamese leaders, however, assured that they would do everything to allay the fears and suspicions in the minds of the ASEAN countries. It is, however, a moot point whether the ASEAN countries would be receptive to such assurances because the Southeast Asian scenario is clouded with suspicions and fears forced on the region by external interests.

As far as Indo-Vietnamese relations are concerned, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Vice Premier Vo Nguyen Giap stressed India's paramount position in South and Southeast Asia and expressed Vietnam's keenness to learn from India's experience in the economic fronts. They were keen also to upgrade cooperation with India to a position second only to COMECON.

This has been interpreted to reflect the measure of esteem in which Vietnam holds India as a developing country with a requisite economic, industrial, agricultural and technological infrastructure to assist other developing countries.

Rao gave succinct expression to the basic thrust of India's policy when he said in Bangkok that Asia needs to be relaxed. So long as even a small segment of the Asian region is embroiled in tension, the whole of Asia gets affected. In this context, it is noteworthy that he has been able to secure a broad consensus both in Vietnam and Thailand that Southeast Asia should be a zone of peace. Vietnam appears to have adopted, with minor semantic variations, the ASEAN concept of creating a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, preferring to substitute the term "freedom" with the word "independence".

On an earlier occasion, the Vietnamese foreign minister had asserted that Vietnam is part of Southeast Asia as are Laos and Kampuchea. He then said that the countries of Southeast Asia should not spend the next 20 years fighting each other. He said, and I quote: "We have different economic systems, we can compete peacefully while pushing ahead with projects of mutual benefit as the Mekong Basin scheme."

In a sense, Rao's visits to Vietnam and Thailand constituted a timely promotion of Indian interest in Southeast Asia even as Mrs Gandhi's visit to some Gulf states last year and her proposed visit to Saudi Arabia were for the West Asian region. Together they would define the boundaries of the geopolitical area of India's concern. It can be argued that stable relations between India and the Gulf states in the west and between India and the Southeast Asian countries in the east would prove a vital factor in assuring that both the regions are kept free of the imposed tensions.

It is a matter of gratification that both Vietnamese and Thai leaders stressed that regional problems call for regional solutions in which external interference would play no part. From Vietnam's point of view it stands to reason that the convergence of the American and Chinese interests in the Southeast Asian region would tend to keep tensions alive rather than allow them to subside. It is in this context that significance needs to be attached to the views expressed in Hanoi and in Bangkok in favor of a regional approach.

But, for the evolution of the Kampuchean crisis, it is conceivable that relations between the ASEAN countries and Vietnam on the one hand and between the ASEAN countries and China would by now have stabilized on a meaningful basis as indeed they gave every evidence of doing so after the Vietnamese liberation. There has been a growing awareness in Southeast Asia that the Kampuchean crisis needs to be resolved on a basis satisfactory to all parties concerned, if the region is to become tension-free.

Although for a variety of reasons -- including pressures from the United States and China -- the ASEAN countries voted last September in the UN General Assembly in favor of keeping the Pol Pot regime in the world body, there has been a great deal of rethinking on the issue. The ASEAN block interested itself in evolving an arrangement whereby a coalition would be set up comprising three anti-Hanoi pro-Khmer Rouge resistance groups to persuade the Vietnamese forces to withdraw from Kampuchea. The three groups were led respectively by the former head of the Cambodian state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front Son Sann and Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan. Not all the ASEAN countries were equally enthusiastic about this exercise. But they subscribed to the idea in the interest of resolving the Kampuchean crisis.

According to Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs [title as heard] Rajaratnam, the longer the crises prolong, the greater would be the difficulties. Thailand, too, wants a quick solution; it is only because it would enable it to repatriate the nearly 500,000 refugees who have taken sanctuary along the Thai-Kampuchean borders and whom Thailand is assisting in many ways, including arming the rebels among them to wage a guerrilla campaign against the Heng Samrin administration. But the coalition idea ran into rough weather because of the internal differences among the three groups.

Finding that the proposal was fast proving a non-starter and apparently irked by the intransigent attitude of the Khmer Rouge, Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohammad threw a bombshell a few days ago by declaring that Malaysia would not vote for the Khmer Rouge in the United Nations General Assembly if it dragged its feet over the plans to set up a loose coalition.

One of the possible reasons for his new stance which took even his ASEAN partners by surprise could be that the ASEAN support to the Pol Pot regime had proved to be counterproductive. The Khmer Rouge, either on their own or in the coalition with other more respectable resistance groups, are just not acceptable to the Kampuchean people. Even Prince Sihanouk has declared that while he and liberation front leader Son Sann were well regarded in his country, the Khmer Rouge is not.

China was quick to realize the implications of the Malaysian threat. On February the 6th, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Zhong Xidong announced that China was willing to organize in Beijing a new meeting of the three anti-Hanoi resistance groups. This is perhaps Beijing's way of declaring that it continues to support Pol Pot and its Khmer Rouge organization and would want it to be part and parcel of any alternative set up for Kampuchea contemplated by the ASEAN.

Vietnam meanwhile has indicated that it is aware of the pressures building around the region to force its withdrawal from Kampuchea. In a recent interview, the Vietnamese foreign minister announced that Vietnam would withdraw its forces from Kampuchea partially if Thailand stops arming and aiding the rebels to wage war against the Heng Samrin regime and that it would withdraw totally if China stops its threat against the Southeast Asian states. Vietnam was willing to consider the idea of a general treaty to be entered into by China guaranteeing peace in the region. Predictably, it debunked as totally unrealistic the attempts to set up a coalition government for Kampuchea as an alternative to the Heng Samrin regime. Sarcastically he declared, and I quote: "The coalition has no room in Kampuchea. They can sit in Bangkok or Singapore, for after all Singapore is the father of this child called the coalition government."

While Rao was in Bangkok, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila talked in terms of four conditions favoring a solution of the Kampuchean crisis. He wanted Vietnam to withdraw all its troops from Kampuchea immediately. He also suggested that any future government in Kampuchea had to be acceptable to all the countries of the region.

Firstly, to expect Vietnam to withdraw totally in the absence of a guarantee that the United States would stop assisting the Khmer Rouge and other anti-Heng Samrin elements is to hope for the impossible. Secondly, to expect that any future Kampuchean government must be acceptable more to the countries of the region than to the Kampuchean people themselves is unreasonable. In this kind of a situation it stands to reason that any overt or covert interference by outside elements to force a solution on Vietnam and Kampuchea is bound to end in failure.

India at least cannot endorse any proposals which are sought to be imposed from above and which envisage a military solution. India has, however, good reason to feel encouraged that some signs are beginning to appear in the region that a regional approach to a solution may yield better results. Narasimha Rao was therefore quite right when he assured the Vietnamese and Thai leaders that India would exert such influence as it has through quiet diplomacy to promote the concept of a regional approach. To the extent that Thailand as one of the ASEAN partners has advocated the regional approach concept, it is a hopeful development, and if Narasimha Rao's visit has contributed to the strengthening of such hopes, it has achieved a significant purpose.

RAO CONGRATULATES NEW PAKISTAN FOREIGN MINISTER

BK181627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] The external affairs minister has congratulated the newly-appointed foreign minister of Pakistan, Lt Gen Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan. In a message, Narasimha Rao expressed his confidence that under the stewardship of the new foreign minister relations between India and Pakistan will continue to improve.

KASHMIRI ASKS HAQ TO STOP SUPPRESSING PEOPLE

BK180425 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 9 Feb 82 p 9

[By B.K. Tiwari of EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE]

[Text] London, 8 Feb -- The president of the UK branch of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference [AJKMC] has asked Mr Ziaul Haq to stop suppressing, torturing and killing people in his homeland, now under Pakistani control, or face undisclosed action, including violence.

Mr Sultan Mahood Chaudhry, whose father, Chaudry Noor Hussain, the overall president of AJKMC, is now in jail because of his political activities, said that if the Pakistani dictator continued to deny his people their legitimate aspirations, some 1 lakh Kashmiris living in Britain plus those who were in "Azad" Kashmir would be forced to take steps which could, to begin with, strangulate the Pakistani economy.

(Chaudhry Noor Hussain has been adopted prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International).

The measures his party will take include instructions to Kashmiris here to stop remitting money in foreign exchange to Pakistan, boycott PIA [Pakistan International Airline], stage demonstrations and close their accounts with all Pakistani banks.

He gave Mr Zia 90 days to hold elections in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir and release all Kashmiri political prisoners.

Mr Sultan Mahood Chaudhry told newsmen that Mr Zia was playing a double game. On one hand, he said, Mr Zia's "barbaric regime" proclaimed its support to the cause of Kashmiris; on the other, it was behaving like imperialists. The dictator, he added, had denied elections to Kashmir, imposed a third class brigadier as president of "Azad" Kashmir, let lose a reign of terror, torture and killing and detained any Kashmiri who asked for his legitimate rights.

He said Mr Zia had jailed hundreds of Kashmiri politicians, lawyers, students and workers and had issued warrants of arrest for the acting president and general secretary of AJKMC, Mr Mazhar Hussain and Mr Sawar Khan. He mentioned the names of several Kashmiris in jail.

Mr Sultan Mahood Chaudhry disclosed that he intended to convene a conference of Kashmiri leaders both in India and Paskistan to discuss the "future" for 9 million people. The invitees would include Sheikh Abdullah and Mr Karan Singh but not Mrs Gandhi, who had ceased to be a Kashmiri, he added.

He said the Kashmiris, if given their right to express their opinion, could decide to become independent or choose to be with India or Pakistan.

SOVIET DENIAL OF DANGE'S VISA 'BIZARRE'

BK171703 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 11 Feb 82 p 6

[Editorial: "The Dumping of Dange"]

[Text] The Soviet denial of a visa to S.A. Dange marks a strange turn in the political career of the veteran communist leader. Mr Dange wanted to go to Moscow and then proceed to Havana by a special plane for attending a conference of the World Federation of Trade Unions [WFTU] in his capacity as president of the All-India Trade Union Congress. But the Soviet Consulate in Bombay refused to grant the visa on the curious excuse that he had no air ticket in hand. Air India would not issue a ticket without the visa either. That is the version given by Mr Dange in his telegram to the WFTU authorities, informing them of the cancellation of his trip to Havana. Surely, there must be more to it than technical reasons. The small fries in the Bombay Consulate could not have said no to a person of that importance without instructions from the highest level. The message is loud and clear. Moscow has done with Mr Dange, for good.

The Soviets banging the door in the face of a Lenin Prize holder has its bizarre aspect. For the octogenarian Indian leader it is a personal tragedy -- after a lifetime of devotion to the communist cause and associations with the tallest leaders of the Soviet world from Lenin to Brezhnev. When the bulk of the hard core in the undivided Communist Party of India turned against the Soviet party in its quarrel with China in the early sixties, it was Dange who was foremost in defending the Soviet side. In fact, after the party split he was the principal target of the formerly pro-China CPI(M).

Much water has flowed under the Volga bridges since then. Mr Dange now finds himself left out in the cold, spurned even by the Russians. It is the moment of truth for him -- and perhaps a lesson for other Indian communists as well.

The Soviet snub to Mr Dange amounts to more than an ungracious act. (After all, the Russians would have lost nothing by allowing the aged Indian leader to breathe the bracing Moscow air just once more.) It is a signal to the Indian comrades that too close an identification with a party other than the Moscow-backed CPI -- not even Mrs Gandhi's party -- does not pay. Implicit is a message to Mrs Gandhi, too, and she can be trusted to read it aright. Only, her reaction may not be what Moscow bargains for.

PATRIOT: U.S. ENCOURAGING INDIAN SECESSIONISM

BK171056 Delhi PATRIOT in English 8 Feb 82 p 2

[Editorial: "U.S. Hypocrisy"]

[Text] U.S. State Department officials have assured us in a highly patronising language that their government supports the unity of India and that it has no sympathy for the "Khalistan" movement. But none of the reasons it has given to explain the granting of visa to secessionist leader Jagjit Singh Chowhan is in the least convincing. Mr Chowhan himself has given a lie to the U.S. plea that the visa was given on humanitarian grounds: He made a political statement to a New York journal and bragged about his influence in the U.S. and the Government of India's failure to "knock him out".

And there is an element of truth in his claim that he has access to influential quarters. Mr Chowhan was obviously not very sick when he was granted multiple-entry visa after a special "waiver", used when a person is given entry though he does not possess a valid passport. If the man really needed medical care, the U.S. officials could at least have the courtesy of informing the Government of India that they were applying a waiver in special circumstances and then barred Mr Chowhan from making any political statement. But no such step was taken, though the U.S. as well as Canada had been informed much earlier that Mr Chowhan's passport had been revoked. Besides all this, the man is not unknown to the State Department officials. The Indian Embassy in Washington had informed them that Mr Chowhan was engaged in subversive activity and had been preaching Sikh separatism from Canada and the U.S. The embassy was given to understand that the U.S. administration would look into the matter. This the administration significantly did by permitting Mr Chowhan to return to the U.S. and carry on his work.

Minister of External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao has personally conveyed to U.S. Ambassador Harry Barnes India's "serious concern and unhappiness" over the incident. But it is doubtful whether our strong feelings will have any effect on the Reagan administration. There is hardly any evidence, except some hypocritical assurances, that the U.S. is really interested in the unity and stability of this country. All the available information shows that U.S. agencies are working in concert with allies in the neighbourhood to encourage social and political disruption and outright separatist activities. There is hardly any doubt that Washington is interested in destabilising the regime which is resisting its pressures.

Such has been the U.S. policy in relation to all countries and this policy has been stepped up by Mr Ronald Reagan. He made it clear even before he took over as president that his sympathy lies only with those regimes which help the U.S. national interest. Thus, the extraordinary consideration shown to Mr Chowhan is not fortuitous. The official explanations do not convey any sense of regret or claim anywhere that it was a mistake. The claim that the U.S. was interested in unity and stability of India is no more than a formality.

What is more significant is the insolence lurking behind the hollow formality. The U.S. administration acted in the manner it did not only to encourage disruption and secessionism.

It wanted to make it amply clear to us that it could go quite far in ignoring our interests and doing harm to our stability. The blatant violation of diplomatic conventions and proprieties in this case amounts to political blackmail.

GANDHI QUESTIONED ON WEST BENGAL ELECTIONS

BK161703 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Feb 82

[Text] The prime minister has said that her party does not want to postpone elections in West Bengal. However, Mrs Gandhi said there are serious complaints against the electoral rolls and all opposition parties in the state, including the Congress-I, have expressed the view that this should be looked into. She was addressing a news conference at Raj Bhavan in Calcutta today.

Answering a question, Mrs Gandhi said a lot of people in the state feel that the elections, if held under the left front government, may not be fair. But her party has not given any such impression, she added.

Asked whether there is a possibility of imposing president's rule in the state, Mrs Gandhi said there is no such proposal at the moment.

About electoral alliance against the ruling left front, the prime minister observed that it is for the state unit of the party to decide.

About the functioning of the state unit of the Congress-I in West Bengal, Mrs Gandhi said some jobs have been done well, some could have been done better. However, the main thing is to remain united.

The prime minister said that it is unfortunate that some laws passed by Parliament are not being implemented in the state. She said it is a pity that an atmosphere of confrontation is being built up against the center. There have been before and even now governments with different views at the center and in the state but, according to her, this should not stand in the way of cooperative functioning.

Asked about India's relations with Pakistan, the prime minister said we are trying to have better relations with that country. However, we must be fully prepared for any eventuality. The best way, she said, is avoidance of war.

Referring to the infiltration across the Bangladesh-West Bengal border, the prime minister said we will do everything possible to check such activities.

REDDY ADDRESSES BUDGET SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

BK180843 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] The president struck an optimistic note about the country's economy and said we have the strength and the resources to move forward speedily. Addressing members of Parliament at the beginning of the budget session today Sanjiva Reddy recounted with satisfaction the growth in various sectors during the current financial year. He said the first 2 years of the sixth plan were years of consolidation. Let us now use this strength to make the next 3 years of the plan years of a march forward, he added.

The president devoted nearly half of his 30-minute-long speech to economic issues. He touched upon the law and order situation, India's international relations and major world problems. He said the world is passing through difficult times. Our own problems are not inconsiderable. Fortunately, we are a nation imbued with a sense of purpose and our people have a capacity to rally together in moments of challenge. Political differences are bound to exist in a democracy but we should not degenerate into discord. He told members of Parliament that the good of the nation is an objective for which we must learn to cooperate, transcending disputes.

In an extensive review of the economic situation, the president pointed out that the rate of inflation was substantially curtailed in spite of the unfavorable economic environment.

He said all important industries have recorded a significant increase in the last 9 months. In order to maintain this tempo 1982 is being observed as productivity year. The president observed that the outlook for agricultural production is also encouraging. Preliminary assessments indicated that the kharif production might reach an all-time level of about 80 million tons. The total production of foodgrains is expected to exceed the previous record of 133 million tons. The production of sugarcane and pulses is also showing an upward trend. Irrigation has been extended to another 26 lakh hectares during the current year.

Referring to the deteriorating situation, Reddy said the IMF loan is meant to meet the situation and to ensure continued development. The president also outlined the considerable headway made in space technology, communications and scientific research. Stating that the government is widely concerned for the welfare of workers, Reddy said legislation to amend labor laws will be introduced in the current session. The industrial relations machinery is being strengthened.

The president referred to the problems of foreigners in Assam and said the government held several rounds of talks with the representatives of the agitators and opposition leaders. The efforts to find a fair and satisfactory solution are continuing.

About the international situation, Reddy said we earnestly hope that the major military powers will realize futility of confrontation and stop diversion of resources from development to armaments. The president said India continues to seek good and friendly relations with neighboring countries.

Further Details

BK180931 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Excerpts] The president has struck an optimistic note about the country's economy and has declared that we have the strength and the resources to move forward speedily. Opening the budget session of Parliament today Sanjiva Reddy expressed satisfaction over the growth in various sectors during the current financial year.

About the international situation, Reddy said we earnestly hope that the major military powers will realize the futility of confrontation and stop diversion of resources from development to armaments. The president pointed out that military presences around us have increased. This danger should make all of us determined to safeguard national security and interest through nonalignment and the peaceful resolution of differences. He regretted that strategic considerations of other countries should cast extra burdens on us.

Reddy declared that we cannot afford to be complacent. The nation will be called upon to make heavy sacrifices to maintain preparedness at all times for meeting external challenges.

UNDERSTANDING REACHED ON MIRAGE-2000 DEAL

BK131250 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Feb 82

[Text] The defense plan has been updated till 1985. Giving this information to newsmen in Jammu today, the defense minister said that the Mirage deal with France has not yet been finalized, but a memorandum of understanding has been drawn up.

Referring to the offer of a no-war pact to Pakistan, Venkataraman said India is sincerely continuing the talks to arrive at such a pact. Earlier, addressing soldiers, he reiterated the government's determination to keep the country and the armed forces fully prepared to meet any eventuality.

POLAND WANTS TO IMPORT INDIAN GOODS IMMEDIATELY

BK141133 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Feb 82

[Text] Poland has expressed its desire to import immediately agricultural products and consumer goods from India. It wants to import goods worth rupees 500 million to tackle its difficult internal situation. This was stated by Commercial Counsellor of the Polish Embassy (Kreizenskiy) in Madras yesterday. He said this would be in addition to the trade protocol signed between the two countries. He also said rice, maize, canned meat, tea, garments and cotton fabrics are among the commodities that his country wants to import from India as soon as arrangements are made.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH BULGARIA TO EXPAND

BK170952 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Feb 82

[Text] India and Bulgaria have agreed to expand and diversify areas of economic cooperation between them. Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria Andrey Lukanov had wide-ranging talks with the prime minister and the ministers of industry and commerce during his just-concluded visit to New Delhi. Lukanov left for Sofia last night.

Lukanov's visit was a follow up of the discussions held by Mrs Gandhi with Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov during her visit to Sofia last year. The two sides felt that there is a considerable scope for cooperation in the field of pharmaceuticals, leather goods, electronics and food-processing industry.

WORK BEGINS ON FIFTH NUCLEAR POWERPLANT

BK141125 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Feb 82

[Text] Work on the fifth atomic power station in the country has begun at Moticher in Gujarat. The 3,830-million-rupees project will have four reactors of 235 mw each. At present the construction of two reactors has been taken up.

A spokesman of the atomic energy department told UNITED NEWS OF INDIA that all (?caps)-type reactors in the power station would be fuelled by natural uranium moderated by heavy water. The fuel for the project would be fabricated at the nuclear fuel complex in Hyderabad which is now being expanded in a phased manner.

The spokesman said the first unit of the power station is expected to be ready in about 9 years. He said the proven reserves of uranium in the country are considered adequate to support the power program of the project.

VELAYATI HANDS KHOMEYNI MESSAGE TO AL-QADHDHAFI

LD181444 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday received Brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, who handed him a written message from Ayatollah Khomeyni. The message reads:

It is truly regrettable to see that while the holy Koran urges Muslims to unite and shun division and disputes, certain states claiming to be Muslim stand on the side of America and Israel with a view to spreading division and disputes amongst Muslims.

America backs Israel, the usurper, and threatens the Arab states and peoples at a time when Iran has cut off oil supplies to Israel, declared its support for the Arab brothers and called on Muslims to fight America and Zionism. Despite all this, certain Arab governments, out of friendship to America and Israel, engage in spreading rumors and levelling accusations and fabrications in order to disturb Iran. Such friendship benefits only America and Israel and leads to harm to the region.

These governments act this way instead of showing cohesiveness with their Muslim brothers as called for by the rules of the holy Koran, and instead of extending a hand of union and friendship to and seeking the help of the strongest state of the region, the state most committed to Islam -- a matter that is in their own interest and against their enemy's.

We thank you for grasping this reality, for condemning America and Israel, and for your loyalty to the states sticking to the Islamic law.

We pledge that Iran, its government and people, stand by your side. Finally, we reiterate our support for you, and for all the states committed to Islam. We condemn the inhuman aggressions carried out by Israel, the usurper of the land of Palestine; particularly the annexation of the Golan Heights and the rest of the usurped lands, and also the aggression against innocent people in southern Lebanon.

TEHRAN: U.S. CHANGING TACTICS IN GULF REGION

GF180452 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] As-Sadat's successor, Husni Mubarak, has arrived in Oman to begin talks with Qabus. Mubarak's visit to his ally Qabus, who is a GCC member, comes after his visit to Washington in order to strengthen relations between Egypt and Oman. These relations were not even affected by the formal [words indistinct] of As-Sadat's Egypt, as was decided by the Baghdad summit conference in 1978. [passage indistinct]

These moves by Mubarak following his return from Washington cast light on the region's political map, particularly after Weinberger's visit here and after the United States decided, for the first time, to revolt against decorum and throw all its weight behind the agent regimes that rotate in its orbit. The signs of the fall of these regimes have become clearer than ever. While Oman has become a U.S. base and a naval station to monitor movements in the Persian Gulf, Mubarak has requested the United States to aid the Qabus regime militarily. And at the time some of the GCC members are announcing their displeasure because Oman has continued to offer bases and facilities to the United States, Qabus' Oman continues to be a GCC member and continues to enjoy the full rights of membership.

This is the pattern of diplomatic conduct pursued by the agent regimes associated with the United States. They are trying to make this conduct a fait accompli in order to impose it on the region's Islamic peoples. Perhaps the agent states had no other pattern [words indistinct].

On the one hand they dare not expose their reality before their peoples. On the other they cannot conceal their scandals and dubious moves and the to-and-fro trips by the masters' envoys in clear daylight because it is the masters who first announce these friendly visits. Hence, this hypocritical and unsteady pattern in the policies of the servant regimes in the region.

This pattern was the primary reason for the Muslim peoples' search for the alternative they have long been missing. This alternative is Islamic rule and divine justice that have been bargained away by the mercenaries of the embassies of the imperialist states. These mercenaries are the region's agent regimes.

Because the United States and the imperialist states realize this fact, it was natural that the conflict between them and their agents on the one hand and the Muslim peoples on the other came into the open. Look at the long list of Iraqi massacres committed by Baghdad's rulers, the mass detention campaigns in Egypt, the armed conflict with the Muslim people in Sudan by Numayri's authorities, and the usual and daily surprise arrests of everyone suspected to be religious or sympathetic to the Islamic revolution in Iran in the region's states. All this affirms that the imperialist states have decided to begin a new method of dealing with the Muslim peoples in the region. This new method is suppression and terrorism in order to continue to usurp and swallow the resources of the Muslims.

Because the imperialist states find this conduct inevitable, the coming months in the region will be heated. Neither the Rapid Deployment Force nor the eroded regimes in the region can face the will of the Muslim peoples.

MUSAVI DEPUTY'S ACTIVITIES IN GDR REPORTED

For reports on meetings held between Deputy Prime Minister 'Abdollah Jasemi and East German leaders in the GDR, starting on 12 February, see the German Democratic Republic section of the Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT on 18 February.

23 CIVILIANS KILLED IN IRAQI ATTACK ON ESLAMABAD

LD181822 Tehran IRNA in English 1707 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 18 Feb (IRNA) -- Twenty-three innocent civilians were martyred and 46 others wounded as the Iraqi fighters bombed Eslamabad-e Gharb (in Bakhtaran Province, former Kermanshah Province) on Wednesday Feb 17, according to the latest report.

IRNA reporter who visited the bombarded area stated that most of the martyrs were babies at the ages ranging from 6 to 18 months. In a 7-member family, there was only one child left, the report added. Due to this bombardment, a residential area with a radius of one kilometer had been destroyed. In this area fifteen houses were destroyed and thirty others damaged.

Following this criminal aggression, Thursday was announced as a day of public mourning. Primary measures for finding bodies and transferring the wounded to Bakhtaran and Imam Khomeyni Hospitals of Eslamabad were taken by the Red Crescent Society, governor general's office, municipality and dispensary of Eslamabad. Also relief amenities have been provided for the survivors of the incident.

Following the savage bombardment of Iraqi plares in Eslamabad-e Gharb, IRNA reporter talked to several survivors of the martyrs of this incident last night. Head of a poor family said that he had lost eight members of his family. Also, a woman stated that 6 members of her family have been martyred of whom 3 bodies have not yet been recovered, and all members of another poor family have been martyred.

Latest report indicates that relief operations for finding probable remains were still continuing while provincial officials and institutions of Bakhtaran Province have announced their readiness for providing immediate assistance for the survivors.

Majlis Condemns Bombing

LD190033 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 18 Feb (IRNA) -- In the open session of the Majlis on Thursday morning the bombardment of the city of Eslamabad, western Iran, on February 17th, by the Ba'thist Iraqi Army was strongly condemned.

Various deputies and the Majlis speaker deplored the savage attack which resulted in martyrdom of 23 civilians and the injury of 46 others.

The Eslamabad deputy in the Majlis, Latif Safari, referring to the recent savage bombardment of his constituency by Iraqi (?planes) said that silence of international organizations and so-called supporters of human rights concerning these violations and crimes of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime was shameful.

The Majlis speaker, also talking about the recent crimes of the Ba'thist Iraqi forces in Eslamabad, condemned the action and said that such crimes were of no military value and it was just taking revenge on the resistant people of the city who by their resistance have antagonised Saddam, the United States and reactionary regimes of the region. "We call on our combatants to give a proper response to the Iraqi forces, of course in the warfronts and not in the manner that Saddam did," Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 794

LD181940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Communique 794 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Fighting continued to rage between Islam's combatants and the aggressive Saddamist forces during the past 24 hours with the use of heavy weapons in the southern and western parts of the country.

In the area west of Dezful, the ground forces' combatants, opening fire on enemy positions, killed or wounded more than 50 aggressive servicemen. They also set fire to one enemy mortar, one ammunition dump and four trenches. On the Shush and Reqabiyeh fronts, thanks to the artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, enemy trenches were destroyed and 32 Iraqi servicemen were killed or wounded.

In the Abadan region, firing by the combatants of the gendarmerie prevented the movement of a military column on the opposite bank of Arvand Rud. In the same region an enemy engineering vehicle and 12 trenches and foxholes were destroyed by our fighting personnel, and 9 of Saddam's servicemen were either killed or wounded.

True to his very cowardly manner, the enemy made certain parts of Abadan the targets of his heavy-weapon fire, causing losses in lives and property.

According to an announcement by the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 1235 on 15 February 1982 our fighter aircraft launched an attack on the Al-Bakr jetty [in Iraq], inflicted serious damage on the jetty and then returned safely to their bases.

Exchanges of fire continued on the Bostan, Chazzabeq, Neysan and Karkheh Kur fronts and in all the operational areas in the western parts of the country, being most intense on the Meymak and Sumar fronts. Four enemy trenches and one 106-mm gun were destroyed in Meymak and losses were inflicted on the aggressors in Sumar from artillery fire on enemy infantry troops. As a result of fire from our forces, a number of enemy trenches in the Kuklan region were destroyed and four Iraqi servicemen were killed and another five were wounded. On one of the fronts in the western part of the country five enemy trenches, one foxhole and several tank emplacements were destroyed.

At 1430 yesterday the Saddamist criminals dropped cluster bombs on residential areas in Eslamabad-e Gharb, destroyed a number of houses, martyred 21 citizens and wounded another 46.

During operations on 16 February, five servicemen of the ground forces in the country's southern and western fronts were martyred. May their memory be held dear.

KHOMEYNI'S OFFICE APPOINTS DEHDASHT FRIDAY IMAM

GF181842 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] A Dehdasht Friday imam has been appointed. Our correspondent reports the text of the order issued by the office of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as follows:

In His exalted name. His Excellency Seqat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mr Hajj Seyyed Hoseyn Shar'i, may your shadow continue. Following the request of the respected people of Dehdasht and on the approval of the ulema, may God support them, Your Excellency has been appointed Dehdasht Friday imam by His Holiness Imam Khomeyni -- may his shadow extend. God Almighty willing, you should familiarize people with their revolutionary and sensitive duties with respect to Islam and the revolution while carrying out the great gift of God [Friday prayers] and teach them to avoid disunity and disagreement.

It is hoped that you will be successful in your duties with the aid of the zealous and combatant local people.

[Signed] The office of resident [as heard] of Imam Khomeyni

ARDABILI ON JUDICIARY, SECURITY AFFAIRS

GF181135 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Feb 82 pp 1-3

[Part III of exclusive ETTELA'AT interview with Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, state public prosecutor -- date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: In matters of security and judicial affairs now that the national investigation agency has been set up and now that the Constitution has delegated this authority to the judiciary and all the other organizations, what has the Supreme Judicial Council done in this respect?

Answer: Formerly it was said about the administration of justice that the courts and the public prosecutor's offices had detained people merely on the basis of suspicion. The courts were blamed for torturing people on the basis of doubt to obtain confessions.

There are two or three issues in this regard that we should consider. One of these is that we are in the midst of purging and streamlining.

For example, the second half of last year was quite different from the first half. It is like this in all organizations. This is one problem. The other problem is that we have not reached a specific stage where we have "deliberately" done something [as published].

We have set up courts and any violation is investigated. Tomorrow I have a meeting with members of the court and I will check the results of their work.

However, we do not have cases of convictions made on grounds of [alleged] violations. There are two or three cases which were "deliberate" (in the opinion of the court) and so they were imprisoned. Those convicted are now in Evin Prison -- even shar' magistrates and prosecutors. Most of the prosecutors who work in the courts are young and inexperienced. Their mistakes are greater than those of the shar' magistrates but of a lesser degree than those of the shar' officials. But the shar' officials' errors are dealt with more drastically and in detail. The first step is the termination of service, and their dossiers are reviewed.

Question: Most of the instances discussed among people and rightly or wrongly censured are arrests. It seems there is no specific organization for this purpose but that some organizations are permitted to make arrests. On this basis, suppose a person is arrested. It is possible his family or relatives do not know of his whereabouts, as has been the case, more or less. The other issue is the atmosphere that has been created by the counterrevolution. And that is the question of the economic aspect and the confiscation of property.

Answer: The first issue has been eliminated. I wish to inform you that it used to be like this, but the Supreme Judicial Council discussed it with the public prosecutor's office and with the Islamic courts, the revolution guards and the komitehs and they do not have the authority to make arrests without the order of the public prosecutor. Not at all.

Regarding the fact that one could be arrested for a long period of time with his whereabouts unknown, it is announced -- the location as well as his telephone number. [It must be announced] 24 hours later (and the prosecutor is dutybound to announce this); if he does not, those responsible send the prosecutor to prison. If he does not obey, he is imprisoned. His violation is a crime. Formerly visitors were not allowed; now they are. Three hundred visitors come in daily. This problem has been solved.

Question: In certain cases, secret investigations have been mentioned which are proposed in addition to open investigations. Sometimes it is mentioned in a news item. For example, in a certain city the shar' magistrate arrested supporters of a group who are in our opinion different from us in their views. They are not supported by us. In fact, they are infidels. But the official was quoted as saying: You are convicted of being an atheist, a renegade and an infidel and I have the right to finish you. What is the court's course of action in this respect?

Answer: They have no such orders. And if such courts exist, it is a case of gross violation. In fact, the opposite is true. Sometimes a person indulges in armed activity, and when he is arrested, he says he is one of the "majority." (Being one of the "majority" is a pretext to exonerate one guilty of armed military activity.) But it is not so.

Question: The Supreme Judicial Council issued a series of orders to the Islamic courts under which in certain cases it was possible to execute supporters of an opposition group. One such case was if the supporter was an active one. Is this still valid?

Answer: If they repent and give the assurance that if they are released they will never attempt subversive activities, in that case, no.

Question: Even after being arrested?

Answer: Yes, even after their arrest; his name will be included in the list of those pardoned.

Question: This is a new turn of events. We thought that even now it is as before, that is, according to the previous directive.

Answer: No, no. I gave an interview on radio and television in which I explained that there were two stages of the problem we had with them (counterrevolutionaries). This is the second stage. The first stage was that of a conspiracy, a war. They (the opponents) had orders to kill, to hit and so on. But the decisive and meticulous procedure of the courts allowed that stage to be passed, and they suffered. Now conditions have changed.

Now their activities are no longer in the form of a conspiracy to overthrow. But they do manage to create an unhealthy and contaminated environment from time to time. Now we are at this stage. Assassination is considered a crime, and they also have a series of activities which they commit, but it is not the same now.

Question: Those who have indulged in political activities but no military operations or actions, what is their position?

Answer: Their system has a predilection -- a political one, a propagandistic one -- and an ideological aspect as well as a military department, all of which have been coordinated with each other.

Question: On the basis of documentary evidence, if one indulged in political activity a year or two ago in any of the universities or in a place where he had political contact with an organization and pasted its posters on the walls or canvassed in its elections but returned [to the fold], and if there are many witnesses of the fact that he has reformed, would he be apprehended?

Answer: If it is proved, he will not be apprehended. Recently the Supreme Judicial Council issued a directive which has not yet been received by the courts but has been issued by the council that such persons should not be apprehended unless charges are proved.

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON TUDEH TIES WITH SOVIETS

GF162355 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 15 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Compatriots: A great question for all of us Iranians is and has been: Will Iran finally become the ripe apple that the Russians are waiting for to fall into their lap? It seems that history is about to give an answer. The shameless and dedicated mullah who came to power in Iran with the aid of international capitalism, multinational trusts, oil devourers of the world and those who do not have access to warm waters in the world has now clearly become the instrument of the historical answer to this question.

Khomeyni is not alone. The members of the party that supports toilers, that is the "nationalist and patriotic" Tudeh Party, are hand in glove with Khomeyni, illuminating the road for him. The general secretary of the party, who like his great ancestor, is the sworn enemy of freedom and awareness of our nation -- that is, Comrade Kianuri of yesterday or, as some say, the Ayatollah Kianuri of today -- has become a jack of all trades in order to help the ripe apple drop into the lap of his Red friends with the help of Khomeyni, who is even more flippant than the greedy village mullah. These are the friends who have not yet been able to comply with the wishes of their Peter the Great and reach the warm waters -- that is, open waters -- of the world.

At the same time, plays are performed daily which are truly funny and stupid, such as tramping upon the Soviet flag at the same time as on the American one last Thursday in Tehran's Shahyad Square and the sulking of three Soviet diplomats because of this act, their leaving the show and the rest of the game.

In the 40-million-strong society of us Iranians -- thank God, 10 million of them have left Iran; 30 million are left in Iran who can only imitate being alive -- there is no one left who has not seen or heard about the hanging and stoning of Carter's effigy. Is there anyone who cannot remember how they used to tear or burn the American flag in their ceremonies in front of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran? Is there anyone who cannot remember or does not know about the shameful act of releasing the U.S. hostages at the moment of Reagan's arrival in the presidential palace?

What happened? What was the result of all the flag burnings and threats and now the insults to the Soviet flag? Do they think such shows will fool the people? Whom do they want to fool anyhow? In our Iran -- among what is left of the population -- no one is left who has not discovered the nature of this turbaned, hairy gang and not learned about its tricks. Does the evidence not speak for itself? Suppose they tear the Soviet flag into tiny pieces, rub it in the mud, burn it and then bury it. Then what? May Khomeyni's health continue!

The Soviets come and go, send advisers, put up the high towers of the steel mill and set up SAVAMA -- that is, Khomeyni's SAVAK -- send outdated machinery for farming and sell us useless arms, buy cheap oil and gas, and most important of all get their foot in so that when the time comes they can form a government. They place 13 armored divisions on Iran's borders and the government of Imam Khomeyni and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mullah Khamene'i does not say a word. Their ships come right down to Bandar-e Pahlavi and Astara and catch ton after ton of Iran's sturgeon and yet Imam Khomeyni continues to cry "Neither East nor West" and continues his fun with Ayatollah Comrade Kianuri. So what if they kick the Soviet flag now and then?

In fact, such things should be done so that those who have their wisdom only in their eyes see and believe and chant everywhere: "Imam Khomeyni and closeness with the Soviet Union? God forbid, God forbid."

Compatriots, one of the tactics of the Tudeh Party is to play down its own importance, or at least pretend to do so. The so-called champions of the Iranian toilers, who are called the traitors of the Tudeh Party in the language and tradition of the nationalists, continue to [try to fool] the Iranian people by saying that communism has no place in Iran and that the Tudeh Party could never come to power.

They, of course, pretend that what is said about relations between the Tudeh Party and Moscow is all lies and that the enemy -- you know, those smelly bourgeois -- spread such rumors. The Tudeh members say that those who claim the Tudeh Party is the USSR's servant are themselves the leashed dog of the Americans.

They say: Could the Tudeh Party be subservient to the Russians? The Tudeh Party not only is not a servant of the Soviets, but all its members are faithful, Muslim and noble nationalists who each have worry beads in their hands and are looking after the banks, cultural, propaganda, political and armament organizations with their full beards from Paris to London, Babol to Amol, China and beyond so that, God willing, Imam Khomeyni's Islam can spread its roots further and so that the faithless Iranian people will become more Muslim.

Yes, all these are words. There is no one who does not know the shameful history of the Tudeh Party and these Marxist-Stalinist foxes who are now talking about Islam and worshiping God. History has made its judgment. If the late shah of Iran was against them, the nationalists were also against them.

The beginning of the story is at the time of the false government of Gholam Yahya and Jafar Pishevari. Then the Tudehis cooperated with Dr Mossadeq and then, on orders from the Soviet Union, dropped him. If Mossadeq was doing wrong, then why did the Tudehis support him at the beginning. And if he was doing good, why did they leave him on his own? If, as they said, they loved the young shah of Iran -- that was their title for Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi -- then why did they befriend others 3 years ago so that he had to go? If they did not support the young shah of Iran, then why did they print his protographs in their newspapers and publish one piece of flattery after another? If such questions are met by silence from Moscow, history has given its answer. Despite what the Tudehis may swear, there is no doubt whatever that the Iranian Tudehis are 100-percent servants of Moscow and that they will carry out obediently, without question and in a wink, whatever their master orders.

These gentlemen, in the past year, forced Khomeyni's regime into a commerical deal with Moscow to the astronomical tune of 2.5 billion marks [as heard] and now, while establishing the foothold, they are starting to murmur that a friendship and cooperation treaty should be signed between Iran and the Soviet Union and that the Soviet Union should supply arms for the Iranian Army. What better than this? Babrak Karmal used the same mistake by Taraki -- his signing of a friendship and cooperation pact with the Soviet Union -- to come into power. When the world condemned the coup in Kabul, the Soviets said: We have a friendship pact and have given them military help. And Karmal supported this.

If such a pact is signed in Iran, there will be no room left for complaints when Comrade Kianuri takes over the government. Of course, the soldiers of the Red Army -- on the pretext of helping a country with a friendship or cooperation pact with the Soviet Union -- will rush into Iran. (?So what) if Mullah Khamene'i wants to arm the Iranian Army with Russian weapons and after this with thousands upon thousands of Soviet advisers? Let them brag about tramping on the Soviet flag while avoiding mention of open or secret commerce and transit agreements.

Yes, compatriots, history is about to answer us and will solve our problem with the regime of Khomeyni and the Tudeh Party at the end of the third year of the capture of the national power by the coupist group of mullahs.

NVOI ASSAILS U.S. 'HYPOCRISIES' ON HUMAN RIGHTS

TA161616 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 15 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Reagan's Hypocrisies"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: U.S. President Reagan and his entourage in the White House pretend that they care more about the defense of human rights in other countries than in the United States. Such a claim is not only false, but it also pursues a specific aim: to mislead international public opinion and to justify America's impudent interventions in the internal affairs of other countries under the false pretext of defending human rights.

Economic boycott, military siege and the exertion of military pressure all constitute the fundamental elements of U.S. foreign policy which Washington has repeatedly pursued in respect to other countries that did not want to follow America blindly.

Let us review the past and present events of our own emancipated country. We are all aware that the Islamic government, in order to safeguard the revolution's gains, is engaged in crushing counterrevolutionary elements and monarchists and individuals who were plotting against the government born of the revolution. Our homeland's people and progressive mankind have observed and continue to observe how both former U.S. President Carter and the current President, Reagan, have resorted to various plots to deepen our country's domestic crisis.

This is nothing more than flagrant U.S. interference in our country's internal affairs and impudent violation of our nation's indisputable right, namely, the right to determine its destiny and to resolve the problems that concern it.

These U.S. actions and measures are no more than inciting the counterrevolution to overthrow the Islamic government, namely, the legal and existing government in our liberated homeland. What common aspect can there be between those hyprocritical claims by White House officials concerning defense of justice, legality and human rights, and these flagrant and impudent interventions in the internal affairs of other countries? Who is not aware that during the Tabas events world-devouring America overtly embarked on an armed and direct aggression against our homeland in order to equip and mobilize the counterrevolution and the dregs of the former regime with the aim of toppling the system of the Islamic Republic.

Everyone is also aware that the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, which was rightly called a den of expionage, had been transformed into the headquarters of the counterrvolution, which under the leadership of experienced CIA spies and agents had been planning an armed struggle against the system of the Islamic Republic.

The United States is exploiting the tense and explosive situation in the Near East, which it has created itself, to interfere in the internal affairs of the region's Arab countries. In the case of our liberated homeland, Washington intends to impose a military plot by the hands of the monarchists, the expelled SAVAKists and the counterrevolutionary elements. The CIA and other U.S. intelligence services are frantically engaged in training and equipping counterrevolutionary forces and the dregs of the former regime in Egypt for their dispatch to Iran with the aim of subversion.

On Turkey's soil also, with direct U.S. participation and in the vicinity of our country's borders, a so-called army has been formed comprising all counterrevolutionary elements, terrorists and SAVAKists stationed in eight villages in Turkey. These subversive and terrorist elements have established contact with counterrevolutionary centers within our country.

British newspapers have reported that Washington has drawn up a plan of military attack on south Iran which has been planned by the U.S. secretary of state and which also has been approved by President Reagan. Such aggressive measures by the United States do not apply to our Islamic Republic alone. In the United States' aggressive plan, the arrival of the U.S. Armed Forces in Turkey, Pakistan and some oil-rich countries of the Persian Gulf, under the pretext of safeguarding the so-called vital interests of the United States in the Near East, has been forecast. Which aggression and military intervention in the affairs of the countries of the Persian Gulf and other neighboring countries in South Asia can one find that is more evident than this?

Washington intends to exploit the Persian Gulf's complex and tense situation, military aggressions and the war imposed on our homeland for its militarization programs and the escalation of its military presence in the region. However, our ever-on-the-scene nation and all struggling nations of the region and progressive mankind condemn world-devouring America's aggressive efforts and its flagrant interventions in the internal affairs of other nations and countries.

Our revolutionary nation and all true revolutionary forces in our region rightly believe that emancipated nations and nations that are in bondage, by continuing the irreconcilable struggle, will be able to rub world-devouring America's nose in the dirt.